Senate



General Assembly

File No. 197

January Session, 2015

Senate Bill No. 384

Senate, March 24, 2015

The Committee on Government Administration and Elections reported through SEN. CASSANO, S. of the 4th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT PERMITTING THE WAIVER OF STATE AGENCY ELECTRONIC FILING REQUIREMENTS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. Section 4-60r of the general statutes is repealed and the
- 2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2015*):
- 3 Each state agency of the Executive Department of the state
- 4 government shall review its existing policies concerning the mailing of
- 5 notifications or other documents to clients of such agency and shall use
- 6 electronic notification and correspondence with such clients where
- 7 deemed appropriate by such agency and where not in conflict with
- 8 any provision of the general statutes. Any such agency that requires
- 9 the use of electronic notification and correspondence with its clients
- 10 may waive such requirement upon the request of the client, if the client
- 11 <u>demonstrates good cause for such waiver.</u>
- 12 Sec. 2. Section 4-60s of the general statutes is repealed and the

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- 13 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2015*):
- 14 (a) Each state agency of the Executive Department of the state
- 15 government shall explore the feasibility of converting all applications
- 16 and forms used by the public to electronic format and create an
- inventory of all forms used by such agency.
- 18 (b) Any such agency that requires electronic applications and forms
- 19 may permit the applicant, individual or business, as applicable, to
- 20 submit a paper application or form upon request, if such applicant,
- 21 <u>individual or business demonstrates good cause for not submitting the</u>
- 22 <u>application or form electronically.</u>

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following					
sections:					
Section 1	October 1, 2015	4-60r			
Sec. 2	October 1, 2015	4-60s			

GAE Joint Favorable

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The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 16 \$	FY 17 \$
Various State Agencies	GF - Potential	Minimal	Minimal
	Cost		

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill would allow executive branch agencies to waive the requirement of electronic correspondence with clients, upon the request of a client with good cause for such waiver. For many agencies, this is already current practice.

However, the bill may result in a minimal cost, associated with printing, mailing and data entry costs, to certain agencies that may now provide waivers and previously did not. The extent of the fiscal impact is relative to the number of new waivers granted.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to the number of new waivers issued.

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OLR Bill Analysis SB 384

AN ACT PERMITTING THE WAIVER OF STATE AGENCY ELECTRONIC FILING REQUIREMENTS.

SUMMARY:

This bill authorizes executive branch state agencies to waive certain electronic filing requirements for their clients and other members of the public with whom they conduct business. The law requires these agencies to (1) use email to notify and correspond with clients whenever possible and not in conflict with state law and (2) explore the feasibility of converting all applications and forms used by the public to electronic format.

Under the bill, an executive branch agency that uses email to notify and correspond with clients may waive the requirement, upon a client's request, for good cause. Similarly, an agency that requires electronic applications or forms may waive the requirement, upon request by an applicant, individual, or business, for good cause.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2015

COMMITTEE ACTION

Government Administration and Elections Committee

Joint Favorable Yea 14 Nay 0 (03/09/2015)